

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of February 13, 2008 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the abstract, specification and claims, and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

pages 1 and 2 of the specification are amended to replace the cited docket numbers with the corresponding US Application numbers;

the abstract is amended to be in proper form by omitting "comprising";

independent claim 1 is amended to replace "print media, and" with --print media; and--, and to specify that the printer comprises opposed printheads for printing photographic images on both faces of the print media and the drier means effects drying of both faces of the printed media during transportation of the media. Support for these amendments can be found at page 15, line 23-page 16, line 2 of the present specification;

dependent claim 2 is unchanged; and

dependent claim 15 is amended to conform with amended claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding Specification Objections

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments of the abstract to be in proper form and the specification to update the cross-reference data on pages 1 and 2, provide the corrections required by the Examiner.

Regarding Claim Objections

It is respectfully submitted that the amendment of claim 1 to replace "print media, and" with --print media; and--, provides the correction required by the Examiner.

Regarding Non-Statutory Double Patenting Rejection

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended claim 1 is patentable over claim 1 of each of copending Application Nos. 10/760,220, 10/760,252 and 10/760,180 and US Patent No. 7,002,664 in view of Koike et al. (US 2002/0192003), because none of these claims of the cited applications and patent combined with the disclosure of Koike teach or suggest a photofinishing system having opposed printheads for printing photographic images on both faces of print media and drier means for drying both faces of the printed media, as is required by amended claim 1.

Regarding 35 USC 102(b) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 15 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by Koike, for at least the following reasons.

Firstly, contrary to the Examiner's contentions, the drier means of Koike (e.g., the heating and drying section 50 as asserted by the Examiner) itself is not arranged to transport the printed media from the recording head 46 nor dry the printed media as it is transported by the drier means, as is required by pending (and amended) independent claim 1.

Secondly, amended independent claim 1 recites that the claimed photofinishing system has opposed printheads for printing photographic images on both faces of print media and that the drier means is arranged to dry both faces of the printed media as the drier means transports the printed media from the printer, as is described at page 15, line 23-page 16, line 2 of the present specification. Whereas, in Koike, the recording head 46 and the heating and drying section 50 only print and dry one side of the recording material 62 being the side on which the ink receiving layer is disposed (see Fig. 2 and paragraphs [0050]-[0051]).

Furthermore, Koike specifically discloses that the recording material 62 has a back coating layer underneath the ink receiving layer which improves conveyance of the recording material and simplifies the structure of the recording material (see paragraph [0073]). Thus, there is no motivation from the disclosure of Koike for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosed arrangement of Koike to have ink receiving layers on both faces of the recording material and therefore to have a heating and drying section for both faces of the recording material, as would be required to meet the claimed invention of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 15 dependent therefrom.

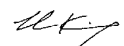
It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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